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Economic and Social Council

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Agenda item 3
Basic programme of work of the Council

Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the Protocol amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961 (New York, 8 August 1975)

Proposal of amendments by the Plurinational State of Bolivia to article 49, paragraphs 1 (c) and 2 (e)

Note by the Secretary-General

In its decision 2009/250 of 30 July 2009, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of the note by the Secretary-General (E/2009/78) on the proposal of the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to amend article 49, paragraphs 1 (c) and 2 (e), of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[1] decided, in accordance with article 47, paragraph 1, of the Convention as amended, to initiate the procedures established in paragraph 1 (b) of that article, which states that the parties shall be asked whether they accept the proposed amendment and also asked to submit to the Economic and Social Council any comments on the proposal.

The Secretary-General, acting in his capacity as depositary, communicated to the parties to the Convention the text of Council decision 2009/250 in a depositary notification[2] dated 30 July 2009.

The Secretary-General is hereby communicating to the Council a note verbale dated 27 January 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the United Nations (see annex).

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.
[2] C.N.474.2009.TREATIES-3.

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Annex

Note verbale dated 27 January 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the United Nations addressed to the Executive Office of the Secretary-General

[Original: Spanish]

The Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Executive Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to Economic and Social Council decision 2009/250, taking note of the note by the Secretary-General on the proposal of the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to amend the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol. In that decision, the Council decided, in accordance with article 47, paragraph 1, of the Convention, to initiate the procedures established in paragraph 1 (b) of that article.

The Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the United Nations wishes to report that the Government of Costa Rica has no objections to the amendment proposed by the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia with regard to the decriminalization of coca leaf chewing, provided that the amendment relates to identifiable ancestral practices, exclusively in indigenous territories, that are recognized by domestic legislation.